



Docket No.: 0557-4885-2



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

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APR 23 2004

Technology Center 2100

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICITON REQUIREMNET
REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME (1 MONTH)**

Our check in the amount of \$110.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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DOCKET NO: 0557-4885-2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

ATSUO SHIMADA, ET AL.

:

EXAMINER: NGUYEN, M.

SERIAL NO: 09/472,249

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FILED: DECEMBER 27, 1999

: GROUP ART UNIT: 2176

FOR: DOCUMENT PROCESSOR,
DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION DEVICE,
DOCUMENT PROCESSING METHOD,
DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION
METHOD, AND COMPUTER-READABLE
RECORDING MEDIUM FOR
RECORDING PROGRAMS FOR
EXECUTING THE METHODS ON A
COMPUTER

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 16, 2004, Applicants provisionally elect with traverse Group (Invention) II and Claims 8-10, 12, 13, 31-33, 35, 36 and 40 of the elected invention.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement for the following reason.

M.P.E.P. § 803 states:

... If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Restriction Requirement on the

grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Accordingly, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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